

NEWS

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PRESIDENT TELLS CONGRESS NATIONAL DEFENSE HAS NOT BEEN NEGLECTED

LEGISLATION REGULATING BUSINESS COMPLETE

President Departs from Text of Prepared Address to Announce Program Practically Ended.

WILL NOT TURN AMERICA INTO A MILITARY CAMP

When Half of World Is Afire, Declares President. We Must Make Our Moral Insurance Against Spread of Flames Sure.

Washington, Dec. 8.—President Wilson departed from the prepared text of his annual address to congress today, which was devoted principally to answering those who contend that the United States is unprepared for national defense, to give notice to the business world that the legislative program of his administration, as it affects regulation of business, was practically completed. He said it had resulted in a clear lead for business to travel to "sunclouded success."

Honest business men, the president declared, need have nothing to fear in traveling the way outlined in the trust and currency bills. While the president dwelt briefly upon the subject, his words were interpreted as an assurance that no further important business legislation was contemplated.

The president's remarks in full with relation to business legislation were as follows:

"Our program of legislation with regard to the regulation of business is now virtually complete. It has been put forth as we intended, as a whole, and leaves no conjecture as to what is to follow. The road at last lies clear and firm before business. It is a road which it can travel without fear or embankment. It is the road to ungrudged, unclouded success. In it every honest man, every man who believes that the public interest is part of his own interest, may walk with perfect confidence."

In the text of his address, which touched upon the administration's legislation program for the session, urging passage of bills for Philippine independence, government-owned merchant marine and some other projects begun but unfinished at the last session, the president devoted most time to discussing the question of national defense, deplored a policy of militarism, but endorsed a development of the national guard and a military training for citizens.

The Democratic side of both the house and senate greeted with applause and laughter his declaration that "some among us are nervous and excited" and that "we shall not turn America into a military camp." "And especially when half the world is on fire," said the president, "we shall be careful to make our moral insurance against the spread of the conflagration very definite and certain and adequate indeed."

This sentiment was favorably received on both sides of the chamber. The president's address, the longest he had yet delivered to congress, occupied about forty minutes in the reading.

CHAMPIONS OF PEACE AND CONCORD YET PREPARED FOR DEFENSE

Washington, Dec. 8.—President Wilson, in his annual address to congress today, gave his answer to those who contend the United States is unprepared for national defense.

"Let there be no misconception," he said. "The country has been misinformed. We have not been negligent of national defense. We are not unmindful of the great responsibility resting upon us. We shall learn and profit by the lesson of every experience and every new circumstance; and what is needed will be adequately done."

Assimilated in joint session in the hall of the house, senators and representatives heard the president reading his address in person from the clerk's desk, outlining the administration's legislative program and voice a fervent hope that the United States might be

Today's War Summary

Instrumental in bringing peace to Europe. The legislative program includes passage of the conservation bills, the bills for ultimate independence of the Philippines, ratification of the London convention for safety at sea, a government-owned merchant marine, charting the populous waters of the Alaskan coast and measures for economy in all branches of the government.

But the portion of the president's address which commanded intense interest was that in which he discussed the subject of national defense.

"It is said in some quarters that we are not prepared for war," said the president. "What is meant by being prepared? Is it meant that we are not ready upon brief notice to put a nation in the field, a nation of men trained to arms? Of course we are not ready to do that; and we shall never be in time of peace so long as we retain our present political principles and institutions. And what is it that it is suggested we should prepare to do? To defend ourselves against attack?" We have always found means to do that, and shall find them whenever it is necessary without calling our people away from their necessary tasks to render compulsory military service in times of peace.

From the first we have had a clear and settled policy with regard to military establishments. We never have had and while we retain our present principles and ideals we never shall have a large standing army if asked.

"Are you ready to defend yourselves? We reply: Most assuredly, to the utmost; and yet we shall not turn America into a military camp."

We will not ask our young men to spend the next years of their lives making soldiers of themselves. There is another sort of energy in us. It will know how to decide itself and make itself effective should occasion arise.

And especially when half the world is on fire we shall be careful to make our moral insurance against the spread of the conflagration very definite and certain and adequate indeed.

"Let us remind ourselves, therefore, of the only thing we can do or will do. We must depend in every time of national peril in the future as to the past, not upon a standing army, nor upon a reserve army, but upon a citizenry trained and accustomed to arms. It will be right enough, right American policy based upon our accustomed principles and practices, to provide a system in which every citizen who will volunteer for the training may be made familiar with the use of modern arms, the culminations of drill and maneuver and the maintenance and sanitation of camps. We should encourage such training and make it a means of discipline which our young men will learn to value. It is right that we should provide it not only but that we should make it as attractive as possible, and so induce our young men to undergo it at such time as they can command a little freedom and can seek the physical development they need for mere health's sake if for nothing more. Every means by which such things can be stimulated is legitimate, and such a method appeals to true American ideas."

"It is right, too, that the national guard of the states should be developed and strengthened by every means which is not inconsistent with our obligations to our own people or with the established policy of our government. And this, also, not because the time of occasion specially calls for such measures, but because it should be our constant policy to make these provisions for our national peace and safety."

"More than this carries with it a reversal of the whole history and character of our policy. More than this proposed at this time would permit me to say, would mean merely that we had lost our self-possession, that we had been thrown off our balance by a war with which we have nothing to do, whose causes cannot touch us whose very existence affords us opportunities of friendship and disinterested service which should make us ashamed of any thought of hostility or fearful preparation for trouble. This is assuredly the opportunity for which a people and a government like ours were raised up, the opportunity not only to speak but actually to embody and exemplify the counsels of peace and amity and the lasting concord which is based on justice and fair and generous dealing."

"A powerful navy we have always regarded as our proper and natural means of defense; and it has always been of defense that we have thought, never of aggression or of conquest. But who shall tell us now what sort of navy to build? We shall take leave to be strong upon the seas in the future as in the past, and there will be no thought of offense or of provocation in that. Our ships are our natural bulwarks. When will the experts tell us just what kind we should construct, and when will they be fit for ten years together? If the relative efficiency of craft of different kinds and uses continues to change as we have seen it change under our very eyes in these last few months?"

"But I turn away from the subject. It is not new. There is no new need to disclose it. We shall not alter our attitude toward it because some amongst us are nervous and excited. We shall easily and sensibly agree upon a policy of defense. The question does not change its aspects because

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WOOTHERSPOON WILL BE YORK STATE OFFICIAL

Former Chief of Staff of Army Chosen by Whitman as State Superintendent of Public Works.

New York, Dec. 8.—Major general William W. Wotherspoon, retired chief of staff of the United States army last month, was notified today by Governor-elect Whitman that he would be appointed state superintendent of public works. Mr. Whitman said that General Wotherspoon had accepted the appointment.

Mr. Whitman said that he had tendered the office to General Wotherspoon at the time of the general's retirement, but he had not accepted until today.

The office runs concurrently with the governor's term and pays \$6,000 a year.

Shopmen's Strike Continues.

St. Louis, Dec. 8.—The strike of shopmen on the Harrison lines will continue, it was announced today by A. G. Wharton, chairman of the railway department of the American Federation of Labor. After he had received the vote of the Bakers' Union on a proposal to call off the strike.

Gasoline Steamer Burns.

Barrow, Dec. 8, via London, Dec. 8, 1915 a. m.—The British steamer Yedes from Port Arthur, Texas, with a cargo of gasoline, went shore near here this morning in a heavy gale.

The cargo ignited and of the crew of thirty-six men on board the Yedes only two were saved, and they were severely burned.

(Continued on Page Six.)

ALLIES SLOW TO CONCEDE VICTORY AT LODZ

English Report Today That Russian Line of Communication With Warsaw Is Seriously Endangered.

BOTH SIDES ALLEGEE ENORMOUS LOSSES

Clear That in Recent Fighting Germans Have Scored Most Points; Fresh Activity Today in Belgium.

Berlin, Dec. 8. (Via Amsterdam and London, 6:15 p. m.)—It was officially announced this afternoon that Emperor William III. The announcement states that he is suffering from a feverish bronchial catarrh and has been obliged to postpone for some days his return to the front, which had been arranged for today. Despite his indisposition, it is said, he is able to give attention to reports of the war situation from the chief of the general staff.

Berlin, Dec. 8 (11:50 a. m.)—A Central News dispatch from Amsterdam says that according to a message from Berlin, it is reported there that upwards of 100,000 prisoners were taken by the Germans when they captured Lodz, Russia.

Berlin, Dec. 8 (9:45 a. m.)—The House Gazette estimates the German casualties in the month of fighting around Lodz at 100,000 and says the percentage of loss is particularly high among the commanding and commissioned officers. Even colonels and occasionally generals, it says, remained on the firing line until they were able to escape by motorcycles.

Berlin, Dec. 8.—Rheims was visited today by a German aviator, who dropped three bombs upon the city, destroying property but injuring no one according to dispatches to the French embassy from the foreign office today.

The communication duplicated today's official statement and added: An aviator dropped three bombs on the city of Eblens, destroying certain property, but causing no further damage."

London, Dec. 8 (12:30 p. m.)—While the allied armies in the west stage their war forward cautiously, grasping with the Germans here and there for a slight advantage, the great struggle in Poland continues, with the Germans for the time being appearing to be the most potent.

Russia has not yet fully con-

cluded the occupation of Lodz, but in view of the repeated German claims and the Russian admissions of the reformism of her hitherto there, it would seem that the German soldier has achieved this goal, upsetting what for a time was called as a decisive Russian victory. The capture of Lodz, if indeed accomplished,

will threaten the Russian line of communication with Warsaw.

That is to say, the great aerial railway which runs diagonally across Poland from Czestochowa to the Polish capital. The details of the battle are still lacking, however, and it remains to be seen whether the Germans will be able to move a further advance.

Mr. Rockhill was born in Philadelphia in 1884 and was educated in France, being one of the few American graduates of the great French military school of St. Cyr. He entered the diplomatic service as second secretary at Peking in 1884, and was afterward chargé of affairs of the American legation at Seoul, Korea. At the conclusion of his Chinese and Tibetan explorations he held the post of chargé of affairs in the department of state for a brief period and in 1884 became third assistant secretary of state, from which he was promoted to be first assistant secretary.

In 1887 he received his first mission, going to Athens as American minister to Greece, Holland and Serbia. He returned to the United States to become director of the Bureau of International American relations, which post he held for two years, relinquishing it to accept the Chinese mission, where he served four years.

From Peking Mr. Rockhill was promoted to be ambassador at St. Petersburg, where he remained for two years and at his own request in 1911 was transferred to the embassy at Constantinople. This last change was made by Mr. Rockhill in order that he might acquire material for personal observation for a literary work he had in hand relating to the history of the Turkish empire. Also he was stated by his friends to have found the post at St. Petersburg far less expensive for his modest private means.

November 26, 1911, having been recalled by Ambassador Morgan, Mr. Rockhill left Constantinople and terminated his connection with the American diplomatic service.

(Continued on Page Two.)

GREAT COLORADO COAL STRIKE IS DECLARED AT AN END TODAY

PAN-AMERICANS ASK BRYAN FOR COMMISSION

Seek Nine of Their Own Number to Formulate Plan for More Complete Assertion of Rights of Neutrals.

Washington, Dec. 8.—At a meeting of the governing board of the Pan-American Union today resolution was passed asking Secretary Bryan to appoint a commission of nine of their own number to study practical steps which will assert the rights of neutrals in the western hemisphere in European conflict.

Rockhill, Famous Diplomat Dead in Honolulu

Recognized as One of Greatest Authorities on Orientals, Their Manners and Customs

Hoover, Dec. 8.—William W. Rockhill, the distinguished American diplomat, died here today at noon.

Mr. Rockhill, who was en route to Peking, there to take up his duties as newly appointed advisor to President Yuan Shih Kai, left the Peer Shioh Maru, on which he had embarked through passage to Japan last Friday, because of a severe cold he had taken while sailing from San Francisco.

At the hospital to which he was removed, his condition failed to respond satisfactorily and his death was known to be critically ill. He sank rapidly and died at 1 o'clock this morning.

William Rockhill was a career of diplomats. He had served big countries as minister to China, minister to Greece, and as ambassador to Russia and Turkey.

Eddie Collins Sold to Chicago.

Philadelphia, Dec. 8.—Eddie Collins, star second baseman, was sold to the Chicago Americans. According to George Mack, manager of the champion Athletics, negotiations had been under way for some time and the deal was consummated in New York today. The contract being signed in that city.

Mr. Mack declined to make public the amount of money involved in the deal, but it is believed to have been a record breaking sum. The report says the sale price was \$10,000.

Deal Practically Closed for Half Million is Report; Eddie Collins Sold to Chicago Americans.

New York, Dec. 8.—Joseph H. Rockhill, a New York brewer, is negotiating with William F. Dwyer and Frank Farwell for the purchase of the New York American Legion baseball club. The three, who sold the club to Eddie Collins, are said to be anxious to sell it.

A larger parliamentary skirmish ended with the appointment of the convention committee by President John McLennan.

The committee follows:

William Gilbert, George Kishner,

James J. Lyons, Richard

John T. Morrissey, D. J. Rose.

A recess then was taken until 1 p. m. the committee to prepare its report.

The report of the executive committee was presented by Frank J. Hayes, vice-president.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WOULD CALL OFF STRIKE

"We recognize no surrender and shall continue to propose the principles of our national movement throughout the coal fields of Colorado," says the communication in announcing the determination of executives to go to terminate the strike.

Final efforts on the part of the federal government to effect a settlement of the controversy and quelling correspondence which passed between President Wilson and the United Mine Workers of America, the communication says, that in view of the recent action of the president in appointing a federal mediation committee "we deem it the part of wisdom to accept his decision and to terminate the strike."

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